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IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently amended) ~~The printer according to claim 1~~ A printer which draws page data for outputting one page at a time, the page data being edited from a line printer output format to a page format based on format information, said printer comprising:

one master board and one or more slave boards each executing:

pre-editing processing in which a temporary page change position delimiting pages is calculated with the data unedited;

editing processing in which data in a next page following the temporary page change position is edited based on the format information to define an actual page change position and the temporary page change position is corrected by the actual page change position to define the page data of the next page; and

drawing processing in which the page data is drawn,

wherein said master board and slave boards execute the pre-editing processing of the data before the editing processing and the drawing processing,

wherein said master board comprises:

a basic unit transferring the data and control information to or from processing units and to or from said slave boards,

wherein said processing units, all connected to said basic unit, include comprise:

a receiver which receives the data from a host computer;

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a receiving buffer in which the data is stored;

a pre-editing unit which acquires data from said receiving buffer and calculates the temporary page change position;

a second format information storage unit in which format information on a next page following the temporary page change position is stored;

a first format information storage unit in which format information common to edited pages is accumulated by obtaining the format information on the edited pages from said second format information storage unit;

an editing unit which edits the next page following the temporary page change position defined by said pre-editing unit to define the actual page change position based on the format information stored in said first and second format information storage units, corrects the temporary page change position with the actual page change position, and defines the page data of the next page;

a drawing unit which generates drawing data from the page data;

a print controller which converts the drawing data into video output data;

an output controller which transfers the video output data sent from said print controller and from a print controller of said slave boards to a printer engine to manage a page of the video output data; and

a user interface which sends or receives operation information to or from an operator panel operated by a user.

3. (Currently amended) ~~The printer according to claim 1~~ A printer which draws page data for outputting one page at a time, the page data being edited from a line printer output format

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to a page format based on format information, said printer comprising:

one master board and one or more slave boards each executing:

pre-editing processing in which a temporary page change position delimiting pages is calculated with the data unedited;

editing processing in which data in a next page following the temporary page change position is edited based on the format information to define an actual page change position and the temporary page change position is corrected by the actual page change position to define the page data of the next page; and

drawing processing in which the page data is drawn,

wherein said master board and slave boards execute the pre-editing processing of the data before the editing processing and the drawing processing, wherein

each of said slave boards comprises:

a basic unit transferring the data and control information to or from processing units and to or from said master board;

wherein said processing units, all connected to said basic unit, ~~include~~ comprise:

a pre-editing unit which calculates the temporary page change position of data acquired from a receiving buffer;

a second format information storage unit in which format information on a next page following the temporary page change position is stored;

an editing unit which edits the next page to define the actual page change position based on the format information stored in a first format storage unit in which common format information is stored and in said second format information storage unit, corrects the temporary page change position with the actual page change position, and defines

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the page data of the next page;

- a drawing unit which generates drawing data from the page data; and
- a print controller which converts the drawing data into video output data.

4. (Original claim) The printer according to claim 2, wherein

said receiving buffer cyclically uses a buffer area in which data from the host computer is stored and an area which is used for the editing processing and, when the buffer becomes full before the page change position is detected during the editing processing, stops receiving the data and synchronizes the format information by distributing the so-far received data among the master board and the slave board to avoid a buffer overflow and to continue processing.

5. (Currently amended) ~~The printer according to claim 1~~ A printer which draws page data for outputting one page at a time, the page data being edited from a line printer output format to a page format based on format information, said printer comprising:

one master board and one or more slave boards each executing:

pre-editing processing in which a temporary page change position delimiting pages is calculated with the data unedited;

editing processing in which data in a next page following the temporary page change position is edited based on the format information to define an actual page change position and the temporary page change position is corrected by the actual page change position to define the page data of the next page; and

drawing processing in which the page data is drawn.

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wherein said master board and slave boards execute the pre-editing processing of the data before the editing processing and the drawing processing, wherein

said pre-editing unit checks whether or not statements coded in a page printer description language are present and, when statements coded in the page printer description language are found, defines a position defined by page change information as the page change position and, when there is no statement coded in the page printer description language, calculates the temporary page change position from a number of characters and a number of lines, the temporary page change position delimiting pages.

6. (Currently amended) The printer according to claim 2, wherein the common format information, which is comprises the format information passed across edited paged, includes one or more of character pitch information, character size information, left margin information, right margin information, horizontal tab information, vertical tab information, line feeding information, font information, character decoration information, paper size information, print orientation information, number-of-copies information, form information, external character definition information, and page change information.

7. (Original claim) A printer comprising:

two or more boards, each comprising:

a pre-editing unit which performs pre-editing processing in which, in order to delimit received data into pages, format information is extracted from a start of non-delimited data beginning with the start of the received data and a temporary page change position is calculated, said temporary page change position being a trailing end of a page whose leading

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end is the start of the non-delimited data,

an editing unit which performs editing processing in which data following the temporary page change position is edited and an actual page change position is calculated to output editing data of a page, said actual page change position being an actual trailing end of the page whose leading end is the temporary page change position; and

a drawing unit which performs drawing processing in which the edited data is drawn and video output data is generated,

wherein, when a pre-editing unit of a first board completes first pre-editing processing, a pre-editing unit of a second board where none of pre-editing processing, editing processing, and drawing processing is performed starts pre-editing processing in which, even if the first editing processing calculating an actual page change position of a page whose temporary page change position was calculated by the first pre-editing processing is not yet completed, a temporary page change position of a page beginning with the temporary page change position calculated by the first pre-editing processing is calculated.

8. (Original claim) The printer according to claim 7, further comprising format information storage units in which format information and page change position information included in received data and obtained by the pre-editing processing and the editing processing are stored, wherein

said pre-editing unit updates, during the pre-editing processing, the information stored in said format information storage units based on the format information extracted from data of a page whose leading end is the start of non-delimited data and on said temporary page change position, and

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said editing unit updates the information stored in said format information storage units based on the format information obtained by editing the data of the page whose leading end is the temporary page change position and on the actual page change position.

9. (Original claim) The printer according to claim 8, wherein, after said editing unit calculated an actual page change position of a page, and when an actual page change position of a preceding page of said page is calculated, said editing unit calculates the actual page executes the process of:

(a) calculating an actual trailing end of said page based on the actual page change position of the preceding page,

(b) correcting the temporary page change position and the actual page change position calculated of said page based on said actual trailing end,

(c) updating the format information stored in said format information storage units based on the actual page change position of the preceding page and the corrected actual page change position, and

(d) outputting editing data existing from the actual page change position to the corrected page change position.

10. (Original claim) The printer according to claim 8, wherein, when the pre-editing processing is completed, said pre-editing unit does not update the format information stored in the format information storage units but completes the pre-editing processing if the editing processing calculating the actual page change position corresponding to the calculated page change is completed.